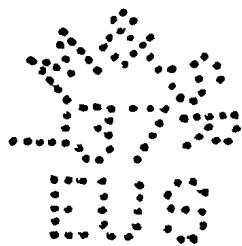


RAILWAY PERFINS by J.M.Ruckridge.

It has always intrigued me that of the four railway companies formed on grouping on 1st January 1923 only two used perfins. The Great Western Railway retained its name and continued to use its perfins. The London & North Eastern produced two perfins. Neither the Southern nor the London Midland & Scottish appear to have produced perfins or continued to use those of the railways from which they were formed.

On a visit to Slopers I was given a proof book in which I discovered five different perforator proofs which clearly belonged to the LMSS. The proofs were on brown paper which does not lend itself to reproduction, so I have done a tracing of one of them:

The letterings are:-



EUS (ton) number 37

LON (don) number 27

MAN (Chester) number 27

LIV (erpool) number 27

DUB (lin) number 27

Since they are too large to fit on normal sized stamps, they are not (in my view) perfins but were intended for some other than security purpose. The significance of the numbers is not clear.